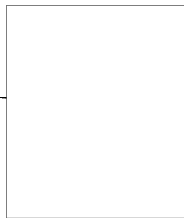


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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Hungary	REPORT		50X1-HUM
SUBJECT	Division VI of the AVH	DATE DISTR.	20 August 1954	
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. Division VI, which is known as the Investigation Division (Vizsgálati Főosztály), was organized after May 1950 to provide the AVH with the machinery and professionally trained officers to conduct interrogations, perform arrests, and accomplish the rest of the Division's mission consonant with the practices of the Soviet MVD. It is designed to take the necessary punitive action required by information from and recommendations by the AVH Operational Divisions. Division VI's jurisdiction does not, however, extend to AVH personnel, except in the highest-level cases; routine disciplinary action is accomplished by Division V. The Chief of Division VI, which is located in the former Pest Provincial Surrogate Court building, is Col. Gyula ZSIDI, also Chief of Division III. Access to the Division VI building is limited to those employed there and identified by an additional page in their AVH identity document stamped especially for admission to Division VI, or by express permission or invitation of a Division VI section chief or higher. The mission of Division VI is expressed as follows:
 - a. To conduct interrogations of, arrest, and bring to trial (as the evidence permits) persons identified as enemies of the State by other Divisions of the AVH.
 - b. Supervise and maintain the AVH prison and internment camps.
 - c. Undertake the investigation of high-level "conspiracies" involving the leading members of the MDP (Hungarian Workers' (Communist) Party) and the AVH. (4)
2. Division VI, in addition to a Chief, is provided with two Deputy Chiefs (names unknown), a Soviet Adviser and AVH Interpreter, and a Secretariat. (5) Its Communist Party organization is thought to be at the section level, rather than (as in Division VIII) at the Division level, with a Party Secretary assigned to each section and reporting directly to the AVH CP Committee Secretary. The exact number of the sections (osztály) in Division VI is uncertain, but of the five believed to comprise the Division, three are known by their number designations, while two can only be identified by their function. They are as follows:

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STATE	*	ARMY	*	NAVY	*	AIR	*	FBI	*	AEC									
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- a. Section 1
 - Supervision and direction of Division VI personnel in the Provincial Departments (Section 6). []
- b. Section 2
 - Supervision and maintenance of AVH prisons and internment camps. (7) 50X1-HUM
- c. Section 3
 - Conduct of investigations, interrogations, house-searches, and arrests.
- d. Serious Cases Section
 - Conduct investigation of high-level "conspiracies".
- e. Legal Section
 - Maintenance of liaison with the Ministry of Justice and provide the Operational Divisions with legal advice when required.

3. Division VI/1 is responsible for supervising and directing the Division VI personnel located in Section 6 of each of the 19 Provincial Departments in the conduct of their work. [] this section is sub-divided into sub-sections, but only the Instruktor Sub-section is known; none of the others can be identified. (8) 50X1-HUM

4. Division VI/2 performs all supervision and maintenance of the AVH prisons and internment camps. It is also responsible for establishing and controlling the informant network (fogda hálozat) operating for the AVH inside all the prisons and camps. Through this informant network, the AVH also exercises some influence (sic) over the civil police prisons in Hungary. The following is a list of the AVH prisons:

- a. Foe Utca: The former Pest Provincial Surrogate Court prison in Budapest.
- b. Mosonyi Utca: The former "Toloncház" Detention House in Budapest. (7)
- c. Kozma Utca: The former Pest Provincial Concentration/Collection Prison (Pest Videki Gyuejtoe Fogház) in Budapest.

The AVH also maintains internment camps at Kistarcsa and Recsk, which are the responsibility of Division VI/2. No further details are known. (7)

5. Division VI/3 is charged with conducting investigations, interrogations, house-searches, and arrests. (9) Division VI/3 only takes action in response to a request for such action on the part of an Operational Division. The actual internal organization of Division VI/3 is not known. [] there is at least an Arrest Sub-section, the personnel of which operate separately (sic) from other Division VI/3 personnel. (10) 50X1-HUM

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6. The Serious Cases Section of Division VI (designation unknown) is required to handle the high-level "conspiracies" within the AVH and the MDP, such as the Gabor PETER purge of January 1953. Nothing is known of this section. (4)
7. The Legal Section (Joguegyi) (designation unknown) has the mission of maintaining liaison with the Ministry of Justice, and of providing the Operational Divisions with legal advice. (11) This latter portion of the mission includes providing legal opinions as to whether or not sufficient, legal evidence exists to permit liquidation of a case by resorting to arrests and legal action against the accused before the courts, and as to whether or not there is sufficient, legal evidence of illegal activity against a potential agent to compel him to accept recruitment in lieu of prosecution; that is, to assist the Operational Division to determine if an actual, legal, agent-control element exists before recruitment is attempted. [] 50X1-HUM

- (4) [] Comment: When performing this function, Division VI conducts the staff work, but an investigative board of high-level AVH or Party officials, depending on the defendant's official position, reviews and studies the case, and makes all the executive decisions. 50X1-HUM
- (5) [] Comment: [] five Soviet Advisers and accompanying interpreters are assigned to Division VI. Except for the Adviser to the Division Chief, it is not known where they are assigned. All the names are also unknown. 50X1-HUM

- (7) [] Comment: The famous Moson Street Detention House is also operated by this section. It is run for the purpose of detaining persons who are "sunk" by Division III and are not to be brought to trial, and for providing facilities for interrogating prisoners already convicted. for any purpose whatever. 50X1-HUM

- (8) [] Comment: [] it seems clear that its efforts, unlike those of the other Divisions, go well beyond a simple liaison/advisory relationship found elsewhere in Head-

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quarters/Provincial Department relations. This is conceivably the case because of the pseudo-legal nature of their work, requiring legal "guidance" by trained legal authorities and specialists only to be found in Headquarters. The internal breakdown of Division VI/1 may, therefore, be along the lines of a legal faculty. On the other hand, it may be a functional organization reflecting all the separate activities in which Division VI is engaged, if Division VI/1 is completely to control every phase of Division VI activity. The latter organization appears more probable.

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(9)

Comment: Secret arrests [] are the responsibility of Division III. Overt arrests only are performed by Division VI/3.

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[] AVH was ordered, after the 4 July 1953 reorganization, to desist from making arrests at night; all detentions were to be conducted during daylight hours, in order to diminish the terror effect of AVH activities which has received considerable propaganda treatment from the West.

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(10)

Comment: It is probable that this section is organized along functional lines.

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[] Arrests take place following the investigation and interrogations by other elements of Division VI/3.

(11)

Comment: The Legal Section is the subject of considerable humor within the AVH, as it is recognized that legality or validity of charges plays a minor role in AVH activities.

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